

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /096 W
-----030459 011604Z /44 41

R 011158Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2625
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 8577

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, NI
SUBJECT: FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT REACTION TO CHARGE OF
VIOLATING ILO CONVENTION

REF: LAGOS 7824

1. ON JULY 23 NIGERIAN NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION (NSO)
CONDUCTED FOUR-HOUR SEARCH OF MR. WAHAB GOODLUCK'S RESIDENCE
AND QUESTIONED HIM FOR TWO HOURS AT ITS HEADQUARTERS.
(GOODLUCK IS ONE OF 11 TOP NIGERIAN LABOR OFFICIALS BANNED
FROM UNION ACTIVITIES.) HIGH LEVEL MINISTRY OF LABOUR
OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY POLITICAL/LABOR ASSISTANT THAT ACTION
WAS IN RESPONSE TO JULY 22 BBC BROADCAST ON WFTU PROTEST THAT
THE FMG HAD VIOLATED ILO CONVENTION IN ITS EFFORTS TO
REORGANIZE LOCAL LABOR MOVEMENT (SEE REFTEL). OFFICIAL
STATED THAT GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN HAPPY WHEN PROTEST WAS
MADE PUBLIC IN LOCAL MEDIA, BUT HAD TAKEN NO ACTION. WHEN
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BBC BROADCAST REPORT, FMG FELT IT HAD TO ACT AGAINST
INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD PROVIDED INFORMATION TO INTERNATIONAL
MEDIA TO CRITICIZE FMG.

2. ACCORDING TO LABOR OFFICIAL, FMG IS NOT HAPPY WITH RECENT
ACTIVITIES OF WFTU AND OTHER LEFTIST LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.
HE NOTED LAST ILO CONFERENCE HAD FAILED TO ADOPT REPORT OF

THE COMMITTEE ON APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMEDDATIONS, WHICH CONDEMNED USSR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS, AND HAD SPENT MUCH TIME ON "EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES" INCLUDING U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO. HE ALSO NOTED THAT FMG WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY MOVE IN ILO THAT WOULD ALLOW U.S. TO JUSTIFY WITHDRAWAL FROM ORGANIZATION.

3. COMMENT: GOODLUCK, AS LEADING LEFTIST LABOR LEADER, WAS OBVIOUS MAN TO BEAR BRUNT OF FMG DISPLEASURE OVER WFTU'S PROTEST. REPORTEDLY GOODLUCK WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PREPARING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR WFTU PROTEST. HAVING MADE ITS DISPLEASURE KNOWN TO LABOR MOVEMENT BY ACTING AGAINST GOODLUCK, REPORTEDLY FMG IS NOT CONTEMPLATING FURTHER ACTION.
WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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